

This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Please translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Si usted desea obtener una copia de este reporte en españnol, llamenos al telefono 617-788-1190.

La relazione contiene importanti informazioni sulla qualità dell'acqua della Comunità. Tra-durlo o parlarne con un amico che lo comprenda.

O relatório contém informações importantes sobre a qualidade da água da comunidade. Tra- duza-o ou peça a alguém que o ajude a entendê-lo melhor.

Sprawozdanie zawlera ważne informacje na temat jakości wody w Twojej miejscowści. Poproś kogoś o przellurnaczenie go lub porozmawiaj z osobą która je dobrze rozumie.

يحتوي هذا التقرير على معلومات هامة عن نوعية ماء الشرب في منطقتك. يرجى ترجمته، أو ابحث التقرير مع صديق لك يفهم هذه المعلومات حيداً.

Η κατοθεν αναφορα παρουσιαζη σπουδαιες πληροφορειες για το ποσιμο νερο σας. Πρακακλω να το μεταφρασετε η να το σξολειασετε με καποιον που το καταλαβαινη απολητως

Im Bericht steht wichtige Information über die Qualität des Wassers Ihrer Gemeinschaft, Der Bericht soll übersetzt werden, oder sprechen Sie mit einem Freund, der ihn gut aversteht.

这份报告中有些重要的信息, 讲到关于您所在社区的水的品 质。请您找人翻译一下,或者 请能看得懂这份报告的朋友给 您解释一

この資料には、あなたの飲料水 についての大切な情報が書かれ ています。内容をよく理解する ために、日本語に翻訳して詩む か説明を受けてください。

इस रिपोर्ट में 'पीने के पानी' . विषय पर बहुत जरूरी जानकारी दी गई है। कृपया इसका अनुवाद कीजिये, या किसी जानकार से इस

របាយការណ៍នេះមានពត៌មានសំខា ន់អំពីទឹកបរិភោគ ។ សូមបកព្រែ ឬពិគ្រោះជាមួយអ្នកដែលមើលយល់ របាយការណ៍នេះ ។

이 보고서에는 귀하가 거주하는 지역의 수질에 관한 중요한 정보 가 들어 있습니다. 이것을 변역 하거나 충분히 이해하시는 친구 와 상의하십시오.

Bản báo cáo có ghi những chi tiết quan trọng về phẩm chất nước trong cộng đồng quý vị. Hãy nhờ người thông dịch, hoặc hỏi một người bạn biết rõ về vấn để này.



Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and Your Local Water Department

This report is required under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act MWRA PWS ID# 6000000

Where To Go For Further Information

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection Department of Conservation and Recreation Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health (DPH) US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) List of State Certified Water Quality Testing Labs Source Water Assessment and Protection Reports Information on Water Conservation

617-242-5323 www.mwra.com www.mass.gov/dep 617-292-5500 www.mass.gov/dcr/watersupply.htm 617-626-1250 www.mass.gov/dph 617-624-6000 www.cdc.gov 800-232-4636 www.mwra.com/04water/html/testinglabs.html 617-242-5323 617-242-5323 www.mwra.com/sourcewater.htm www.mwra.com/conservation.html 617-242-SAVE

Public Meetings

MWRA Board of Directors MWRA Advisory Board Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee

www.mwra.com/02org/html/boardofdirectors.htm 617-788-1117 www.mwraadvisoryboard.com 617-788-2050 413-213-0454 www.mwra.com/02org/html/wscac.htm



For a large print version, call 617-242-5323.

Your Water System



Water Treatment – From the Reservoir to Community Pipelines

Your water is treated at the Quabbin Disinfection Facility before it enters the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct. The first treatment step is primary disinfection where MWRA's licensed operators carefully add measured doses of chlorine to water to kill any pathogens that may be present. Licensed operators in Chicopee perform additional booster disinfection at the point where the local pipes take water from the Aqueduct. Each community also treats the water to reduce leaching of lead from home plumbing.

MWRA Improvements to the Water Supply

Water must travel through the 15-mile Chicopee Valley Aqueduct and through some of the hundreds of miles of local distribution pipes under your streets before it reaches your tap. To continue providing high quality water, each part of the water system needs routine maintenance and, when necessary, improvements or new facilities.

MWRA has begun construction to add ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection to the water treatment plant to meet new EPA standards. Construction is expected to be finished in 2014.

Testing Your Water – Every Step Of The Way

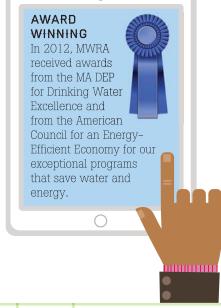
Test results show few contaminants are found in the reservoir water. The few that are found are in very small amounts, well below EPA's standards. Turbidity (or cloudiness of water) is one measure of overall water quality. There are two

standards for turbidity: all water must be below 5 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units), and only can be above 1 NTU if it does not interfere with effective disinfection. MWRA met both of these standards. Typical levels at the Quabbin Reservoir are 0.3 NTU. In 2012, turbidity was always below both the 5.0 and 1.0 NTU standards, with the highest level at

0.6 NTU. MWRA also tests reservoir water for pathogens - such as fecal coliform, bacteria, and the parasites Cryptosporidium and Giardia. They can enter the water from animal or human waste. All test results were well within state and federal testing and treatment standards.

Test Results - After Treatment

EPA and state regulations require many water quality tests after treatment to check the water you are drinking. MWRA conducts hundreds of thousands of tests per year on over 120 contaminants (a complete list is available on www.mwra.com). Details about 2012 test results are in the table below.



Compound	Units	(MCL) Highest Level Allowed	(We found) Detected Level-Average	Range of Detections	(MCLG) Ideal Goal	Violation	How it gets in the water
Barium	ppm	2	0.006	0.006-0.007	2	No	Common mineral in nature
Fluoride	ppm	4	0.04	ND-0.04	4	No	Mineral in nature
Nitrate^	ppm	10	0.02	0.02	10	No	Atmospheric deposition

KEY: MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant allowed in water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.

MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

ppm=parts per million ^As required by DEP, the maximum result is reported for nitrate, not the average.



Community Pi 0000000000 00000000000

IT'S THE LAW!

Drinking water regulations require water suppliers to mail this information to customers each year. MWRA makes every effort to keep costs down, and this report MAIL was produced, printed, and mailed for less than 21 cents apiece.



INFORMATION **ABOUT CROSS** CONNECTIONS

Massachusetts DEP recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices for inside and outside hose connections to help protect the water in your home, as well as the drinking water system in your town. For more information on cross connections, please call 617-242-5323 or visit www.mwra.com/crosscon.html.

TAP WATER-THE SMART CHOICE!

Although tap water and bottled water have to meet the same standards, tap water must meet the more intensive EPA testing requirements. Yet, tap water costs less than a penny per gallon delivered straight to your home, while bottled water costs from \$1 to \$8 a gallon.

Tests in Community Pipes

MWRA and local water departments work together to test water all the way to the tap. We test samples of water in community systems each week for total coliform bacteria. Total coliform bacteria can come from the intestines of warm-blooded animals, or can be found in soil, plants, or other places. Most of the time, these bacteria are not harmful. However, their presence could signal that harmful bacteria from fecal waste may be there as well. The EPA requires that no more than 5% of the samples in a given month may be positive for total coliform. If a water sample tests positive for total coliform, we run more specific tests for E.coli. E.coli is a pathogen found in human and animal fecal waste that can cause illness. No *E.coli* was found in any CVA community in 2012.

Drinking Water and People With Weakened Immune Systems

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminants in Bottled Water and Tap Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or MWRA. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Massachusetts DEP and EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public

water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and

limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations establish

How Would I Know About a Problem With My Drinking Water?

MWRA and your local water department keep close watch on the water supply. If there is a problem with your water, you would get the news by radio, television, newspapers, state and local government health officials, and from MWRA.



WATER CONSERVATION

On average, each person uses 60 gallons of water each day. There are many simple ways you can conserve water and lower your bills, including: fixing leaks, installing low-flush toilets and low-flow shower heads, or minimizing your outdoor water use. To find out more about MWRA's conservation program, call 617-242-SAVE or visit www.mwra.com.

DRINK LOCAL AND BE **GREEN!**

Tap water is delivered straight to your home without trucking or plastic waste. Bottled water produces over 10,000 times the amount of greenhouse gasses compared to tap water. One bottle of water is the equivalent of a month's supply of tap water. That is because our water is local, and because almost half of our energy needs are met with green power including hydro-energy, wind turbines, and solar panels.

> **Drink local! Drink tap** water! Be green!

Your Community Information

Each community has specific treatment and improvements that are listed below:



CHICOPEE PHONE: 413-594-3420 PWS ID# 1061000

The Chicopee Water Department's Corrosion Control Facility continues to provide excellent water quality by adjusting the water's pH and alkalinity levels. Sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) are used to make this adjustment. A phosphate blend also adds an extra level of protection by further reducing corrosion throughout the system. The benefits of these treatment processes are evident in the reduced level of dissolved metals such as lead, copper, and iron in the city's water supply.

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, water samples must be collected specifically for the analysis of lead and copper. Household plumbing is the main contributor of these metals in our drinking water and the water's chemistry is adjusted to minimize corrosion well before it reaches the homes of Chicopee's residents. In 2012, there were 30 samples collected for the analysis of lead and copper in Chicopee's drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reduced the number of samples that must be collected by the Chicopee Water Department due to its successful maintenance of low to absent levels of lead and copper in the water system. The next round of lead and copper samples will be collected in the spring of 2015.

The Chicopee Water Department (CWD) maintains 274 miles of distribution water mains through over 16,000 connections to approximately 55,000 residents. Within the past year water mains have been replaced on East St., Broadway, Coolidge, Oxford Place and St., over the Davitt Bridge, Kendall, with plans upcoming for St. James Av., Dale St., Slate Rd., Marcelle, Mary, Yvonne, Hope, Nassau, Alden, Perrault, Wilfred, and Berger Sts. to be replaced within the next 24 months. The CWD also responded to 150 leaks last year and maintains emergency service 24/7. Currently we are in the process of looking to improve our metering system in hopes of going to monthly billing.



WILBRAHAM PHONE: 413-596-2800 PWS ID# 1339000

The Corrosion Control Facility on Miller Street in Ludlow, which injects sodium silicate into the water, continues to operate successfully. During 2012, the Water Division completed lead and copper sampling at 20 homes and 2 schools (Mile Tree & Soule Road Elementary Schools) in the distribution system. This Massachusetts DEP required sampling was possible due to the cooperation of residents willing to perform first draw sampling at their homes. The results of the sampling were excellent; indicating our Corrosion Control Program continues to work flawlessly as it has since its beginning in 1997.

During 2012 the list of duties performed by the Water Division included: maintaining the four water booster stations, the 2.1 million gallon water tank and our corrosion control facility; four water breaks were repaired, 7 new water service installations, the replacement of two fire hydrants, over 80 main line gate valves were cleaned and checked for operation and exercised, 171 work orders of various tasks were accomplished, 100 testable backflow prevention devices were tested at least once per MA DEP regulation, over 200 water samples were taken for water quality analysis and 3,300 meters were read during March and then again in September. The new Minnechaug High School opened with a new 8 inch ductile iron water main from Tinkham Road supplying water to students and staff. Total water usage in 2012 was approximately 440,981,000 gallons as measured by the MWRA master meter. This amount is nearly 12% more than 2011





SOUTH HADLEY FD#1 PHONE: 413-532-0666 PWS ID# 1275000

The District has been successfully using sodium silicate for corrosion control in order to comply with the federally mandated Lead and Copper Rule since 1998. Sodium silicate increases the pH of the water and provides a microscopic coating on the inside of the residential plumbing systems to prevent possible lead leaching from solder and fixtures into the water. Our next required sampling round of 30 homes will be spring of 2013.

Within the past year, our crew has repaired seven water main breaks and four service leaks throughout the Distribution system. These leaks were discovered through our annual leak detection survey and had resulted in a substantial loss of water for the department. In addition to the repair work, seven new services were connected to the distribution system. As part of our determined commitment to improving the distribution system, our staff has replaced a total of 3,350 ft. of water main including fire hydrants and water services on two streets within the District. The new mains will ensure reliability of supply, improved water quality and fire protection.

The District reports that total coliform bacteria were detected in 1 out of 20 water samples collected in July 2012 and 2 out of 20 water samples collected in October 2012. No bacteria were detected in any sample collected from the water source and no E. coli bacteria were detected in any sample. This was not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. A large water main break at the end of September may have caused the bacteria problem in the October incident. Chlorine levels in the distribution system were increased from October 15th to the present, and distribution system lines were flushed to mobilize chlorinated water. No total coliform bacteria were detected in samples since October 15, 2012 indicating that the problem has been resolved.

We are now fortunate to have our own website with historical, and frequently updated information about our Department. Please visit our website at www.shdistrict1.org.



Facts About Lead

WHAT CAN I DO TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER?

- Nun the tap until after the water feels cold. To save water, fill a pitcher with fresh water and place in the refrigerator for future use.
- Never use hot water from the faucet for drinking or cooking, especially when making baby formula or other food for infants.
- Ask your local water department if there are lead service lines leading to your home.
- Check your plumbing fixtures to see if they are lead-free.
 Read the labels closely.
- Test your tap water. Call the MWRA Drinking Water Hotline (617-242-5323) or visit our website for more tips and a list of DEP certified labs that can test your water.



- Be careful of places you may find lead in or near your home. Paint, soil, dust and some pottery may contain lead.
- Call the Department of Public Health at 1-800-532-9571 or EPA at 1-800-424-LEAD for health information.



What You Need to Know About Lead in Tap Water

All three CVA communities met EPA standards for lead in tap water. MWRA water is lead-free when it leaves the reservoirs. MWRA and local pipes that carry the water to your community are made mostly of iron and steel and do not add lead to the water. However, lead can get into tap water through pipes in your home, lead solder used in plumbing, and some brass fixtures. Corrosion or wearing away of lead-based materials can add lead to tap water, especially if water sits for a long time in the pipes before it is used.

What Are We Doing About Lead?

Your local water department tests tap water at a number of homes in your community. But not just any homes. Under Environmental Protection Agency regulations, homes that are likely to have high lead levels - usually older homes likely to have lead service lines or lead solder - must be tested. The EPA rule requires that 9 out of 10, or 90%, of these sampled homes must have lead levels below the Action Level of 15 parts per billion (ppb).

Lead levels found in tap water in sampled homes have dropped significantly since the CVA communities improved treatment to make water less corrosive. This means the water is less likely to absorb lead from pipes and other fixtures. All three CVA communities were below the lead Action Level in the most recent tests.

Important Information From EPA About Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. MWRA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize

the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Drink Local and Be Green!

Tap water is delivered straight to your home without trucking or plastic waste. Bottled water produces over 10,000 times the amount of greenhouse gasses compared to tap water. One bottle of water is the equivalent of a month's supply of tap water. That is because our water is local, and because almost half of our energy needs are met with green power including hydro-energy, wind turbines, and solar panels. Drink local! Drink tap water! Be green!



MOST RECENT TEST RESULTS

	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) values in ppb MCL=80 ppb MCLG=ns		Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) values in ppb MCL=60 ppb MCLG=ns		Chlorine in ppm MRDL=4 ppm MRDLG=4 ppm		Lead in ppb Action Level (AL)=15 ppb MCLG=0		Copper in ppm Action Level=1.3 ppm MCLG=0		Sodium in ppb
	Annual Average	Range	Annual Average	Range	Annual Average	Range	# Samples over AL	90% Value	# Samples over AL	90% Value	
Chicopee	43.3	31.2-54.9	38.9	12.3-51.3	0.84	0.13-1.34	2 of 30	3.8	0 of 30	0.13	16
South Hadley FD #1	47.8	36.7-80.2	24.1	15-40.2	0.65	0.05-1.39	3 Of 30	13.2*	0 of 30	0.04*	7.6
Wilbraham	49.4	32.6-59.4	17.7	9.9-31.9	0.5	0.1-0.9	0 of 20	1.4	0 of 20	0.54	7

KEY: *=These results are from 2011. The definitions for MCL and MCLG are on page 2. AL=Action Level-The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. MRDL=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. MRDLG=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination. ppm=parts per million ppb=parts per billion





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Dear Customer,

I am pleased to share with you the results of our annual water quality testing. MWRA takes hundreds of thousands of tests each year, and for 2012, we again met every federal and state drinking water standard. System—wide, we have been below the Lead Action Level for the past nine years. Please read your community's letter on page 4 for more information on your local water system.

MWRA continues to work to make the water system even better. Construction of new ultraviolet facilities at the Quabbin Water Treatment Plant is currently underway. When completed in 2014, this will provide improved disinfection for the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct communities.

This report describes where your water comes from, how it is treated and delivered, and the steps we take to ensure its quality. Please take a moment to read it so that you can share our confidence in your drinking water.

In 2012, MWRA again received the Drinking Water Excellence Award from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Some of the best drinking water in the country is delivered straight to your home. When you have a choice, we hope you drink locally!

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Laskey Executive Director

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Where Does Your Water Come From?

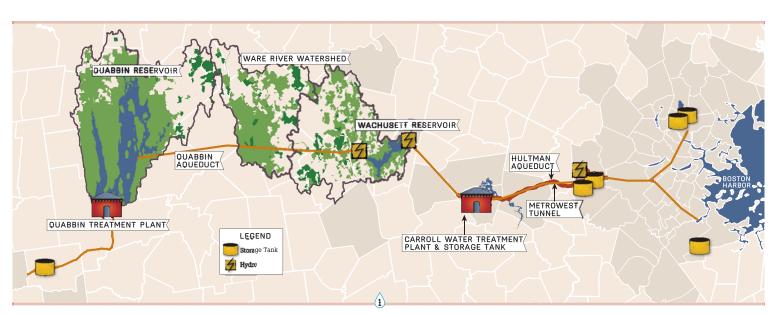
MWRA supplies about 10 million gallons of high quality water each day to three Chicopee Valley communities: Chicopee, Wilbraham, and South Hadley Fire District #1 (FD#1). MWRA also serves 48 cities and towns in greater Boston and MetroWest. Your water comes from Quabbin Reservoir. Water from the Ware River can add to the supply at times.

Rain and snow falling on the watersheds protected land around the reservoirs - turn into streams that flow to the reservoirs. Water comes in contact with soil, rock, plants, and other material as it follows nature's path to the reservoir. While this process helps clean the water, it can also dissolve and carry very small amounts of material into the reservoir. Minerals from soil and rock do not usually cause problems in the water. But water can also transport contaminants from human and animal activity. These can include bacteria, viruses and fertilizers - some of which can cause illness. The test results in this report show that these are not a problem in Quabbin Reservoir's watershed.

The Quabbin watershed is protected naturally as over 90% of the watershed is covered in forest and wetlands. About 83% of the total watershed land cannot be developed. The natural undeveloped watershed helps to keep MWRA water clean and clear. Also, to ensure safety, the streams and the reservoir are tested often and patrolled daily by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program Report for the Quabbin Reservoir. The DEP report commends DCR and MWRA on the existing source protection plans, and states that our "watershed protection programs are very successful and greatly reduce the actual risk of contamination." The report recommends that DCR and MWRA maintain present watershed plans and continue to work with the residents, farmers, and other interested parties to maintain the pristine watershed areas.





Vater Conservation



FOLLOW OUTDOOR WATER SAVING **GROUND RULES**



Water your lawn (and other landscaping) in early morning or evening to avoid evaporation.



Be sure sprinklers water only your lawn, not the pavement.



Never water on a windy day.



Never use the hose to clean debris from your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom.



Apply mulch around plants to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth, and control weeds.

WASTING WATER CAN ADD UP QUICKLY.

On average, each person in the MWRA region uses about 60 gallons of water each day. More efficient water use can reduce the impact on the water supply and on your wallet. For ways to make your home and your habits more water efficient, contact the MWRA at 617-242-SAVE or visit www.mwra.com for tips on saving water indoors and in your backyard.





How to Find Leaks

Dripping, trickling, or leaking faucets, showerheads and toilets can waste up to several hundred gallons of water a week, depending on the size of the leaks. Worn-out washers are the main causes of leaks in faucets and showerheads.

That trickling sound you hear in the bathroom could be a leaky toilet, but sometimes toilets leak silently. TRY THIS: Crush a dye tablet and carefully empty the contents into the center of the toilet and and allow it to dissolve or use a few drops of food coloring. Wait about 10 minutes. Inspect the toilet bowl for signs of dye indicating a leak. If the dye has appeared in the bowl, your flapper or flush valve may need

to be replaced. Parts are inexpensive and fairly easy to replace. If no dye has appeared after 10 minutes, you probably don't have a leak.

Install a Low-Flow Showerhead and Faucet Aerator

Some showerheads may still use over 5 gallons per minute. A low-flow showerhead can use up to 50% less and can save you over 20 gallons per 10 minute shower. In one year, that's over 7,000 gallons. Faucets can use 2 to 7 gallons per minute – a low-flow aerator can reduce the flow by about 25%.



PROMOTE TAP

WATER? Let everyone know that you are drinking some of the best water in the world. Put a sticker on your reusable water bottle and fill it with tap water. Contact MWRA if you



would like to receive a free sticker.



For more water saving ideas and devices, call 617-242-SAVE or go to www.mwra.com.

